UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP

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ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
MADAGASCAR

IPF:(1987-91) $45 209 000
(MAG/91/002) - Population and Housing Census

Date of approval by the AC:[1]	22 May 1991
Expected duration:	Three years
Proposed executing agency:	United Nations
Government implementing agency:	Direction Générale de la Banque des Données de l'Etat
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$1 875 600 Source of funds: IPF
Total UNDP budget:	$1 875 600

Project background

At the present time, Madagascar lacks reliable information on its demographic situation. All the socio-economic data available are given only by estimates based on surveys. Madagascar took its first ever population and housing census in 1975; but because of limited technical resources within the country, the Government was forced to cover the enumeration of the total population of the country in stages, a methodology that did not conform entirely to all the recommendations and principles set out by the United Nations on population and housing censuses. The Census Cartographic work, considered an essential tool for undertaking a nationwide population census in these days, was of extremely poor quality. The populations were refined often with the information given by the supplemental sources. The Demographic Yearbook published by the Statistical Office of the United Nations does not give detailed information on Madagascar in many of the tables published, because the National Statistical Office of Madagascar was unable to provide reliable estimates on the basis of the 1975 census. It is known that the sample surveys carried out subsequently to the 1975 census could not provide the small area statistics needed for an efficient development planning of the country.

[1] **This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.**

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The UNFPA project (MAG/87/P03) Population and Housing Census covered the preparatory census work, but due to a shortage of funds was unable to make provision for any resident advisory posts or meet the Government's needs for financial and technical assistance to complete enumeration, data processing, analysis and publication phases. The donors met in 1990 to discuss how to supplement the Government resources. It was noted that since few nationals have experience in the complexity of field organization for the census, it is now necessary to have an experienced resident demographic census adviser, who will act also as the Chief Technical Adviser for the population and housing census project. The census itself is now scheduled to take place in July of this year and preparations are now at the crucial final stage.

In view of this urgent situation the Government requested UNDP assistance under the present approval.

Description of project

The development objective of the project is to give the planners and the decision-makers reliable tools for a better definitition of development strategies based on a more thorough knowledge of the population and enable the Government to carry out the census and complete the preparatory work funded by UNFPA and USAID.

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) contribute to the strengthening of the capacity of the Direction Générale de la Banque des Donées de l'Etat, the national institution in charge of the collection, treatment and statistical analysis by providing material and human support for the census needs; and (b) assist the Government in carrying out the census activities (sensitization, enumeration and data collection, post-census survey, analysis, publication and diffusion of the results, etc.).

Inputs

UNDP will provide a demographic census technical adviser (12 man-months), a data processing expert (12 man-months) available from September 1991; mission and travel costs; short-term staff [187 data processors (12 man-months) and 2,550 enumerators (1.5 man-months)]; equipment (renting cost of 10 vehicles, 150 motorcycles, 2,000 bicycles, 15,000 storage units); and miscellaneous costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	755 100
Equipment	871 000
Miscellaneous	249 500
Total	1 875 600

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